

PUBLIC SESSION
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT

JANUARY 14, 1980

The Regular Public Session of the Mayor and City Council was called to order at 8:00 P.M. by the President of the Council Mr. Frank Blackwell. The following Councilmembers were in attendance:

Mr. Virginius Williams	Mr. Hubert Gallion
Mr. Ernest Digennaro	Mr. Thomas Brroks
Mr. Frank Blackwell	

Minutes were read and adopted as corrected.

Mayor Arrington arrived at 8:05 P.M.

Mr. Gallion arrived at 8:10 P.M.

Mr. Blackwell informed the Council that Mrs. Jones would not be present because of illness.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Mrs. Kay Wright complained about the inadequate removal of snow during the last snow fall and the rodent problem within her neighborhood.

Mr. Gallion stated that the snow plows were not used.

Mrs. Cynthia Davis also stated that the snow plows did not come to 70th Street.

Mr. Digennaro mentioned that Mr. McCain had informed him that only salt was placed on the streets, and that streets with the highest elevation were serviced first.

Mayor Arrington explained that the City's snow removal plan was in effect. Salt was placed on the streets during the snow fall. Since the snow continued, the Public Works crew did not work throughout the night, but reported to work the following day. From his survey of the City, some of the hilly streets required additional attention.

Discussion pursued about the snow removal and the City's Snow Removal Plan.

CB INTERFERENCE

Mr. Douglas Thomas brought to the Council's attention the incessant interference on his television, telephone, and radio, resulting from CB base stations located near his home.

Mr. Joseph Wade responded that he had contacted the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) who suggested that filters be installed to reduce interference.

Mr. Williams referred to the City's Charter and believed that the City had enforcement powers to correct the interference problem.

Mr. Tobias stated that he would notify the FCC of citizens' complaints and request immediate action for problem resolution.

TRASH

Mrs. Hall complained about the accumulation of trash near the bus stop on Seat Pleasant Drive and 70th Street.

Mr. Ciotti stated that he had contacted Washington Metro Transit Authority about this recurring problem. He offered to donate a barrel to collect the trash but felt the barrel would require mounting or chaining.

Mr. Digennaro also stated that trash barrels should be placed in other strategic locations throughout the City.

Mrs. Hall complained about the accumulated trash around the A&P Store on George Palmer Highway and debris resulting from over filled dumpster.

Mayor Arrington responded that while some of the blame can be attributed to the stores, the problem is a continued one that can not be solved without citizen concern and participation.

Mr. Whitfield stated that he would later discuss an ordinance that would effectively deal with this problem.

POLICE PATROL - BREAK-INS

Mr. Morris Goodwin expressed his dissatisfaction with police patrol for his area and the slow response time when called for assistance. Mr. Goodwin stated that five break-in attempts have been made on his home and that the police fail to take finger prints.

Mr. Charles Nelson stated that he would assist Mr. Goodwin and his neighbors by having the police patrol increased in this area.

SIDEWALK REPAIR

Mrs. Kay Wright asked will the section on 66th Avenue to Addison Road, sidewalk on 62nd Place and installation of sidewalks on George Palmer Highway be included in the City's Street and Road Project?

Mayor Arrington said the Department of Transportation has scheduled the letting of bids for George Palmer Highway landscape project and the work will begin this Spring and that 62nd Place will be included in the up-dated Street and Improvement Project (6 Program Year).

STRAY DOGS

Mrs. Gladys Jones requested assistance from the City in solving the problem of stray dogs. She believed that dogs were contributing to the trash problem by knocking over trash cans.

Mr. Williams stated that the City has dog traps that could be used upon request. He also said that in situations whereby the dog owners were known, the problem could possibly be corrected by approaching the dog owners.

COUNCIL BADGES

Mr. Ciotti, former Councilman requested that his council badge be given to him.

Council badges for all Council persons were requested.

ACTIVITY CENTER

Mrs. Louise Huff inquired about the purchase of uniforms for the basketball league and a score clock. Mrs. Huff believes that the purchase of uniforms and a score clock would be appropriate relative to the funding of a Christmas Party.

Mayor Arrington suggested that a Citizen group be organized to solicit funds from businesses based in the City. He further stated that systematic planning should be initiated to raise money for uniforms.

Mr. Wade expressed his concern on several issues; (1) displeasure over the absence of Mrs. R. Jones (2) use of glue board for rodent control (3) purpose of Capital Improvement Plan (4) the establishment of Recreational Council.

Mrs. Arrington addressed the Council, stating she was a member of the Recreational Council and that Mrs. Hollis was Acting President. Mrs. Arrington stated that she was interested in acquiring additional names for the Council.

Mr. Gallion stated that he had spoken to Mr. Joseph Sharpless, M-NCPPC, Central Area Office, about the creation of a Recreational Council. A meeting will be later scheduled to discuss the formation of a Council.

CONFERENCE REPORT

Mrs. Kay Wright asked had the written reports been prepared on the Las Vegas Convention (National League of Cities), and asked would the reports be published in the Newsletter.

Mr. Williams contended that the reports should be filed as public record for the public review as opposed to publication in the Newsletter.

Mr. Gallion stated that his report was prepared for presentation.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (CDBG 6 PY)

Mr. Tobias requested that a lobbying effort by the Council and Citizens be undertaken to assure the reception of CDBG funds for the HUD 108 Loan and for Street and Sidewalk Improvement.

Mr. Nelson suggested that flyers be distributed at varied activities scheduled at the Activities Center and that individuals be selected to serve as coordinating committee for citizens.

Mayor Arrington and Mr. Williams reinforced the need for an organized effort to lobby for community development funds.

MUNICIPAL INFRACTION LAW

Mr. Whitfield explained the State law that strengthen the ability of municipalities to enforce their codes. He stated that the City's Code Enforcer could be given powers to restrict parking and housing violations, viewed the granting of powers to the Code Enforcer as an effective deterrent to infractions.

Mr. Fannon said he would provide information on this issue at the Wednesday meeting. During 1978, the issue was raised and it was felt that the City Charter had to be changed.

However, it is clear now that this is not the case and he would proceed with the development of a municipal infraction law.

LEGISLATIVE INTERN

Mr. Blackwell read the position description of the Legislative Intern.

Mr. Digennaro asked if savings would result if the Legislative Intern's position and the vacant City Clerk's positions were merged.

Mr. Whitfield moved to have \$850.00 earmarked for Legislative Intern for a period of 26 weeks. Motion was seconded by Mr. Williams.

The motion carried four in favor, (Williams, Gallion, Blackwell and Whitfield). Two opposed (Digennaro and Brooks).

SECURITY SYSTEM - ACTIVITY CENTER

Mr. Nelson asked what action had been taken on the security system.

Mr. Tobias stated that cost estimates would be obtained from Dictograph Security System to increase alarm siren and to install a system to monitor all doors.

Mr. Williams stated that in addition to securing cost estimates for the Activity Center estimates should be obtained for the purchases of tables and chairs.

GREGORY ESTATES

Mr. Gallion raised the issue about accumulation of trash on Gregory Court and rehabilitation of Gregory Estates.

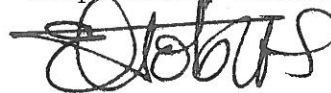
Mayor Arrington stated that a letter requesting project status on the Gregory Estates had been forwarded to the County. The County had responded via letter indicating that the Gregory Estates rehabilitation Project had been given top priority such as speeding up the permit process and supporting a parking and design variance. Mayor Arrington suggested that a committee be formed to provide assistance in screening tenants for Gregory.

Mr. Williams moved that the meeting adjourn.

Mr. Digennaro seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned 10:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Eddie L. Tobias
Acting City Administrator